

Date Mailed
March 27, 2001

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Administration of the Universal Service Fund Grant Program
for Access Programs or Projects by Non-Profit Groups

05-GF-107

**NOTICE OF
INVESTIGATION AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

Comments Due:	Address Comments To:
Thursday, April 12, 2001 – Noon	Lynda L. Dorr, Secretary to the Commission Public Service Commission P.O. Box 7854 Madison, WI 53707-7854 FAX (608) 266-3957
FAX Due:	
Wednesday, April 11, 2001 – Noon	

THIS IS A PROCEEDING to seek comments on the grant applications for access programs or projects by nonprofits.

The Universal Service Fund (USF) may be used for assisting customers in obtaining affordable access to essential telecommunications services and in assisting deployment of advanced telecommunication service capabilities (Wis. Stat. § 196.218). Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 160.125(2) describes a USF grant program for nonprofit groups for the facilitation of affordable access to telecommunications and information services. Application forms for this grant program for the 2001-02 fiscal year were made available in June 2000. The deadline for the grant applications was November 15, 2000. The Commission received eight grant applications totaling \$364,129. One applicant withdrew its application in February 2001. The revised total for the remaining seven applications is \$324,249. A listing of the applicants, their requested grant amounts and a brief summary of the projects is provided in Attachment A.

On February 15, 2001, the Commission issued an order that permits applications that were filed with the Commission by November 15, 2000 for this grant program, to be funded from remaining FY 2001 dollars instead of using FY 2002 dollars that will become available on July 1, 2001. Remaining FY 2001 dollars to be allocated for this grant program are \$306,355.

Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 160.125(2)(f) requires the Commission to seek comments on the programs or projects to be funded, but not hold a hearing. Anyone who desires to file comments on these applications shall submit an original and 15 copies and shall include the docket number as indicated in the box on page 1. Members of the public need only file an

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original. These comments must be received **by noon on Thursday, April 12, 2001**. Comments by fax are due one day earlier. Fax filing cover sheets **must state "Official Filing"** and include the docket number 5-GF-107 and the number of pages (limit of 20 pages). **File by one mode only.**

Copies of the full applications are available from the Commission upon request. Those requests should be made to Records Management at the address given in the box above.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

Questions from the media may be directed to Jeff Butson at (608) 267-0912.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Anita Sprenger, USF Manager, at (608) 266-3843.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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Attachment